

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Applicants made an error in the last Office Action in stating that the nucleotide sequence of the *Bacillus subtilis yvmC* gene is found in SEQ ID NO: 3. This was incorrect. SEQ ID NO: 7 is the nucleotide sequence of the *yvmC* gene. Support for this is found in the Brief Description of the Figures, Figures 4A and 4B. Please amend page 7, lines 23-28, as follows:

In a preferred embodiment, *yvmC* comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 70%, preferably at least 75%, more preferably at least 80%, even more preferably at least 85%, most preferably at least 90%, and even most preferably at least 95% homology to SEQ ID NO: 7. In a most preferred embodiment, *yvmC* comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7. In another most preferred embodiment, *yvmC* consists of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.